

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for suppressing undesired program segments from a broadcast program, the method comprising the steps of:

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receiving program information from a service provider;

determining (208) whether undesired program segments are present in the received program information; and

10 modifying the displayed program to eliminate the undesired program segments.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of determining whether a user program control mode has been activated (202), wherein said steps of determining whether undesired program segments are present and modifying the
15 displayed program are performed when the user program control mode has been activated.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining (208) further comprises comparing the received program information with user defined
20 preferences.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of modifying the displayed program comprises the steps of:

25 identifying how many undesired program segments are present (212);
calculating a time compensation factor (214-224) for the undesired program segments;

delaying the start of the program (230) for a time equal to the calculated time;
and

30 displaying the program to the user uninterrupted with all of the undesired program segments removed.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of modifying the displayed program comprises the steps of:

identifying how many undesired program segments are present (212);
calculating time compensation factors (402, 404, 406, 412, 414, 416) for each
of the undesired program segments;
extending (231) selective desired program segments by the calculated time
5 compensation factors; and
displaying the program to the user uninterrupted with all of the undesired
program segments removed.

6. The method according to claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

10 displaying the calculated time compensation factor to the user (226);
requesting user input (228) to confirm delayed start of the program for the time
specified; wherein said steps of delaying and displaying are performed with the user
confirms the delayed start of the program.

15 7. A method for suppressing undesired program segments from a broadcast program,
the method comprising the steps of:

determining if a program control mode has been activated (202);
loading program information relating to the program content from the service
20 provider when the program control mode has been activated (204);
identifying whether undesired program segments are present in the received
program information (208);
calculating a time compensation factor (214-224) for the undesired program
segments;
25 delaying the start of the program (230) for a time equal to the calculated time;
and
displaying the program to the user uninterrupted with all of the undesired
program segments removed.

30 8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of returning to a
normal operation mode (210) when no undesired program segments are present in
the received program information.

9. The method according to claim 7, wherein said step of identifying includes the step of comparing (208) the loaded program information with user defined preferences.

10. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

- 5 displaying the calculated waiting time to the user (226);
 requesting user input (228) to confirm delayed start of the program for the time specified, wherein said steps of delaying and displaying are performed when the user confirms the delayed start of the program.

10 11. The method according to claim 7, wherein said step of calculating a time compensation factor comprises:

- calculating the time duration for each undesired program segment (218); and
 adding each calculated time duration until all undesired program segments have been accounted (220).

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12. A method for suppressing undesired program segments from a broadcast program, the method comprising the steps of:

- determining if a program control mode has been activated (202);
20 loading program information relating to the program content from the service provider when the program control mode has been activated (204);
 identifying whether undesired program segments are present in the received program information (208);
 determining whether desired program segments can be extended to
25 compensate for removal of the undesired program segments (402);
 calculating a time compensation factor for removing the undesired program segments (404, 406, 412, 414, 416); and
 displaying the program to the user uninterrupted with all of the undesired program segments removed.

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13. The method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of returning to a normal operation mode (210) when no undesired program segments are present in the received program information.

14. The method according to claim 12, wherein said step of determining further comprises the steps of:

5 comparing (402) a time duration of an immediately preceding desired program segment with the fractional computation of the combined time durations of the undesired program segment and the immediately preceding desired program segment;

10 calculating a time extension factor (404) when the time duration of the immediately preceding desired program is greater than or equal to the fractional computation; and

 calculating a waiting time factor (412) when the time duration of the immediately preceding desired program is less than the fractional computation.

15 15. The method according to claim 14, wherein said step of displaying further comprises the steps of:

 extending the program segments immediately preceding the undesired program segments by the calculated time extension factor; and

20 delaying the start of the program for the calculated waiting time.

16. The method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of displaying the waiting time to the user (226); and

25 requesting user input (228) to confirm delayed start of the program for the waiting time specified.